Beacon Sloop Club Broadside



Volume 34, Issue 10

November 2007

Serving The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater with Pride for 34 Years

Message from Our President:

The Beacon Sloop Club has a long history of environmental activism. I urge members to learn more about the local effort described below. Unfortunately, the enabling legislation for our sister county (Orange) across the river was not passed. Perhaps you should ask your Orange County legislative delegation why this is so.

In an effort to preserve the natural beauty and environmental attributes of the Hudson Valley, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Scenic Hudson, and other organizations have advocated for better ways to fund open space and historic preservation projects. In the 2007 NYS legislative session, the town of Fishkill was given authority to establish a Community Preservation Fund (CPF). CPFs are a dedicated fund for protecting open space, funded by a real estate transfer fee. The measure requires the town to identify members of a Community Preservation Committee that would put together a Community Preservation Plan. Once the plan is in place, voters in Fishkill will then vote to establish the fund. For Fishkill and several other towns, the vote will likely be in November 2008. For more information on how to help win, please contact Emmett Pepper, Hudson Valley Program Director for Citizens Campaign for the Environment at (914)-997-0946, epepper@citizenscampaign.org. Local activist and Sloop Club member, Nate Binzen, can also be contacted (<u>nate@intuart.com</u>). The Citizens Campaign web site is: http://www.scenichudson.org/node/96.

John McLaughlin

NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING IS TUESDAY, November 27th, 7:30 p.m. NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS FRIDAY, December 7th, at 7:30 p.m. Potluck at 6:30 p.m.

BSC Membership Form

Name Street Address
City State ZIP Phone Email
Amount Enclosed \$ Renewal New Member
Are you a Clearwater member? Would you like information regarding a Clearwater membership?
Nould you prefer to receive your newsletter in printed format or in e-mail format? Please include your e-mail address if you want your newsletter e-mailed to you.
Membership suggested donation \$25.00. Minimum of \$10.00. Please give more if you can afford it! If you can't afford the minimum, the fee may be waved.

Mail to: Beacon Sloop Club P.O. Box 527 Beacon, NY 12508

The Beacon Sloop Club Broadside is the official monthly newsletter of the Beacon Sloop Club, Inc.

The **Beacon Sloop Club**, **Inc.** is a nonprofit, volunteer environmental education/action and sailing organization dedicated to cleaning up the **Hudson River** and its environs. Our main focus is the **Beacon, Fishkill** and **Newburgh** area.

Members meet the first Friday of every month at the **Sloop Club Building** located just across from the Beacon train station. Look for the building with the Norway spruce tree growing out of the roof! A potluck dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.; bring a covered dish to share and your own place setting. The general meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and lasts about an hour or so. The meeting is followed by a sing-along.

The Beacon Sloop Club is now accessible from the web: <u>www.beaconsloop.org</u>, or www.beaconsloopclub.org.

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Membership Form	2
Minutes of the General Meeting.	3,4
Minutes of the Exec. Meeting	4
Treasurer's Report	5
Woody Report	6
Nominating Committee Report	.6
Ads	7
Calendar	8

BSC Officers 2007

President:	John McLaughlin	542-0721 johnrmcl@aol.com
Vice President:	Sue Altkin	239-1405 heartspiritny@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Linda Beatty	658-3506 lindab@usadatanet.net
Secretary:	Fran Sansone	565-6499 frasant@aol.com

BSC Committee Chairs

Building:	Sue Altkin	239-1405	heartspiritny@yahoo.com			
Environmental:	000/0000		labarrt@engr.newpaltz.edu			
Environmental Foc			aba@ogpaoaa			
Environmental 1 00	Betty Harkins	831-8606	BetHarkins@aol.com			
	Mark McNutt	001 0000	Boarlantino@doi.com			
Festival Music:	Susan Berliner	297-7697				
	Nancy Cahill	831-5774				
Harbor [.]	Tony Monahon		tmonahon@yahoo.com			
Festival Publicity:			Joycehansonoss@aol.com			
Membership:	Tom LaBarr		labarrt@engr.newpaltz.edu			
Monthly Music:			SCOLLAW@OPTONLINE.NET			
Multrum [.]	Marie Young	883-6803	SCOLEAN GOI TOINEINE NET			
Newsletter:	Linda Beatty	000 0000	lindab@usadatanet.net			
Small Boats:	Kip Touraine		KPMTCARP@aol.com			
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	Jim Goergen	729-5773				
Solar Trailer:	Saul Rozinsky		rozinsky@frontiernet.net			
	,					
Sound Bites: Lucille Weinstat 831-8190 luweinstat@yahoo.com Vendor Coordinator:Jane Shumsky (914)271-0057 jskycroton@yahoo.com						
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	0					
Woody Guthrie:	Jim Birmingham		jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com			
Woody Maintenance	e: Regina Fris	883-9794				
	Labor Mallacould's		ghkeepsieschools.org			
Maash Oshad "	John McLaughlin		johnrmcl@aol.com			
Woody Scheduling	: Susan Berliner	297-7697				

Please submit articles for the Beacon Sloop Club Broadside by the 1st Monday after the Friday general meeting each month to lindaby@verizon.net

Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting Minutes November 2, 2007

John McLaughlin, President, presiding.

Circle of Song: With a fire blazing in both the clubhouse fireplace and our sloopers' hearts, **Pete Seeger**, joined by musicians **Sue Altkin, Dan Einbender, Kurt Hauck, Ingrid Heldt, Mike Meade** and **Michael Skolnick**, led us in song with **One Blue Sky**.

Pres. McLaughlin reported that two Hudson River Improvement Foundation grants from 1998 and 1999 were finally closed out thanks to **Tom Baldino**, **Jim Finnigan** and **Kevin Haydon**, who worked with Pres. McLaughlin in remitting the necessary paperwork to close out these grants and allow the Club to receive an outstanding \$3,100 in funds still held by the Foundation.

Building Committee Report: Sue Altkin, Vice President, reported that Chair slots are open for Festival Cleanup and Outside/Inside Maintenance. Anyone interested should contact Sue.

The following members have graciously volunteered to chair building-related committees: Wood Cutting--Pete Seeger; Trash--Peter Rostenberg; Shed Building--Kurt Hauck; Work Parties--Claudine Craig; Cabinets--Stephanie H.; Tree Maintenance--David Cohen; Bathroom Clean-Up--Simone Williams of Farmer's Market.

Thanks were given to those members who joined in the Multrum Work Party. Those members include Nate Binzen, David Cohen, Edmund Fitzgerald, Kurt Hauck, John McLaughlin, Mike Opyser, Pete Rostenberg, Dan Searles, Mike Sherker and Alan Thomas.

Woody Report: Capt. Jim Birmingham reported that a new electric motor will be installed in the Spring on the Woody, which was transported to White's Marina in New Hamburg on Oct. 29. A new pump was also purchased, and the source of the Woody leaks still need to be found. The centerboard will be pulled and inspected, as it is know to be damaged. Thanks was given to Gigi Fris for her part in organizing a work party at White's for the derigging and for cleaning up the work shed at White's and the storage shed at LaBarr's. Over **1000 guests** sailed on the Woody this season. Sailors are expected to begin putting in their 30 hours of maintenance on the Woody. Please contact your Captain or **Gigi Fris**.

Website and Electronic Newsletter Report: Capt. Birmingham reported that newsletters are being sent out electronically to those who wish to receive them in that fashion. Also, the Broadside is available on our website, www.beaconsloop.org. Usually it is up by Thursday following the meeting. Members may elect to receive the Broadside electronically or by mail. Those who choose to receive the newsletter electronically will receive a one-time e-mail inviting them to sign up for the electronic list that distributes the newsletter. Please reply to that e-mail in order to be on the newsletter mailing list. You may notify Jim (jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com) of your wish to receive the Broadside via e-mail and you will be sent the electronic invitation to the list in return.

Solar Trailer Report: Saul Rozinsky reported that the trailer has supplied power at more than ten events per year since its inception in the spring of 2000. It has been at many, many events this year. Saul made a request for a durable roll-up sign for the trailer. **Betty Harkins** volunteered to organize a committee for sign making.

Special thanks to **Tinya Seeger**, who did a superb job of making piecrusts for the Pumpkin Fest and cleaning up afterwards on the day of the Fest.

Nancy Cahill passed a hat for donations to benefit the **Beacon Steppers**, who performed at our Pumpkin Festival and with **Pete Seeger** at the **2007 SPRING SPLASH**. \$106 was collected.

Mary Schmalz reported that the Woody took part in two days of the Hudson Valley Ramble in September on both sides of the Hudson River, Beacon and Newburgh. She thanked Capt. Tom La Barr and the Woody sailors for their part as well as Mark for his picture gallery.

River Pool Report: Alan Zollner extended an invitation to the Sun., Nov. 18th, annual luncheon from 11-4 p.m. at Maple Knoll Lodge in Bowdoin Park. There will be a slide show of the 2007 River Swim and children using the River Pool. A new RiverPool film will also be shown. There will be reports from the River Pool Committee heads and election of new Board members. Please RSVP to Alan or Pres McLaughlin.

Nominating Committee: Edmund Fitzgerald, Mary Schmalz, and Connie Hogarth reported the following candidates have been nominated to date: Saul Rozinsky – President; David Cohen - Vice President; Jim Finnigan – Treasurer. No one has stepped forward to be Secretary.

Further nominations may be made at the December meeting when elections will be held. Please call a member of the Committee if you have suggestions of others who should be asked\encouraged to run for office. Only members

(Continued on Page 4)

General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

may vote. If you have a family membership, all members of the family, including children may vote.

Fri. Dec. 7th at 2 p.m., prior to our monthly meeting, there will be a wood cutting party at the Clubhouse. Bring your saws and join Pete Seeger.

Seasonal Sing: David Bernz will organize our annual holiday sing that will be held on Friday, December 14. David (<u>davidbernz@verizon.net</u>) is in charge of the music along with Sue Altkin, and Joyce Hanson (joycehansonoss@aol.com) and Sue Altkin are coordinating preparation of the Clubhouse. Finger foods, toys and charitable gifts/donations are welcome.

Greenland Preservation Video: Frank Landsberger presented a video showing the effects of PCB concentration on the island of Uummannaq in Greenland and mentioned the parallel to our concentration of PCB's in the Hudson River, although our concentration is much less severe. The PCB's are reaching a melting Greenland by way of air currents from countries in Europe, Asia and the U.S. Children from this island sailed on the educational/environmental Sloop Clearwater during their visit to the U.S., and plans are being made to have a dinner celebration when the students visit again in January. Please contact Dan Einbender for more information.

Line Splicing Class is being offered by David Cohen. Interested parties please contact David or John McLaughlin.

Connie Hogarth announced that **Sat., Dec. 8** at the Howland Center from 2:30-4:30 p.m., there will be speakers and entertainment on global warming, in connection with the Bali Kyoto Conference. Later, participants are welcome to join **Pete Seeger** for the nearby Holiday Sing.

John McLaughlin reported on a **Fishkill Environmental Protection** effort, headed by Citizen's Campaign for the Environment. This organization may be contacted at 914-997-0946, and a more complete report is included in the November Broadside.

Seeger Film: *Power of Song* has extended its run in the City for one week, and efforts are underway to have it shown at venues all along the Hudson Valley. A request is in for the Downing Film Center in Newburgh. If you wish to suggest other venues, contact John McLaughlin. IFC Film Center, 323 6th Avenue (6th Ave. and West 4th Street), New York, NY 10014 11:05 | 1:10 | 3:15 | 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30

Member **Ron Bel** has been ill, and BSC members are thinking of him.

Respectfully submitted, Francesca Sansone

Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday, October 23, 2007

The meeting was held at the Beacon Sloop Club at 7:30 pm. with John McLaughlin Presiding.

Pete Seeger spoke briefly to the group indicating that he would distribute material at the regular business meeting exhorting members to be more forthcoming in sharing the workload essential to the welfare of the Club.

Saul Rozinsky gave an overview of solar trailer activities this year. The trailer has been used more extensively than probably any year of its existence.

A short-term solution to printing and distributing the newsletter was devised for this month. Tom LaBarr, Jim Birmingham, and John McLaughlin will deal with the details of printing (to be done by McLaughlin on his home computer\printer) and the three will work together to allocate the mailing list properly to serve those who receive hard copy and those who receive electronic copy. Jim Birmingham explained the electronic mailing procedure that requires recipients to self select to be placed on the mailing list by responding to an email solicitation.

The Nominating Committee, represented by Edmund Fitzgerald and Gigi Fris, proposed that each candidate for an elective office be required to respond to a questionnaire with responses published in the Broadside. This request was not accepted. The Executive Committee voted to turn the conduct and control of the election at the December meeting over to the Nominating Committee. It was agreed that the final tally for any vote would be revealed to any member who requested it. The manner of doing this is at the discretion of the Nominating Committee.

John gave an overview of the Fishkill Environmental Protection effort enabled during the 2007 NYS legislative session.

Sue Altkin gave an overview of recent Clubhouse maintenance activities, including cleaning of the multrum. She indicated a need to put together a list of volunteers who would head up subgroups to accomplish specific needed tasks and will attempt to do this at the regular meeting. John will seek information regarding a holiday sing chair at the regular meeting.

Mary Schmalz requested that she receive further details on the number of crew and crew volunteer hours for the Ramble sail. She needs this for her final report to the Ramble.

Respectfully submitted, John McLaughlin

BEACON SLOOP CLUB TREASURER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2007

Submitted by Linda Beatty on November 2, 2007

10/1/2007 Account Balance	\$	29,042.26			
NCOME	\$				
	\$				
10/4/07 - Donation for newsletter costs		50.00			\$ 50.00
10/9/07 - Alternate Energy Festival	\$	378.00		\$ 378.00	
10/9/07 - Woody Donations	\$	303.00	\$ 303.00		
10/9/07 - General Fund Donation	\$	45.00			\$ 45.00
10/15/07 - Membership	\$	25.00			\$ 25.00
10/24/07 - General Fund Donation	\$	320.00			\$ 320.00
10/24/07 - HRF Grants - Final	\$	3,136.00			\$ 3,136.00
10/24/07 - Chili, Cider, Water - Pumpkin Festival	\$	160.00		\$ 160.00	
10/24/07 - Pumpkins - Pumpkin Festival	\$	690.00		\$ 690.00	
10/24/07 - Fritters - Pumpkin Festival	\$	107.00		\$ 107.00	
Total Income	\$	5,214.00	\$ 303.00	\$ 1,335.00	\$ 3,576.00
EXPENSE					
10/5/07 - Postmaster	\$	123.00			\$ 123.00
10/11/07 - Jacob Borchert - Pumpkins	\$	300.00		\$ 300.00	
10/11/07 - Linda Beatty - Newsletter Ink	\$	53.32			\$ 53.32
10/13/07 - Central Hudson	\$	68.03			\$ 68.03
10/15/07 - Robinson & Sons, LLC - Insurance	\$	11,250.00			\$ 11,250.00
10/17/07 - Elco Electric Launch, Inc.	\$	3,316.69	\$ 3,316.69		
10/23/07 - Fran Sansone - Pumpkin Festival Pie Ingredie	nts \$	157.41	\$ 157.41		
10/23/07 - Betty Harkins - Environmental Education	\$	112.05			\$ 112.05
10/23/07 - Sue Altkin - Toilet Paper	\$	7.40			\$ 7.40
10-24-07 - Herring Sanitation	\$	702.81		\$ 702.81	
10/24/07 - Water - Pumpkin Festival	\$	4.00		\$ 4.00	
10/29/07 - Saul Rozinsky - 1AND1 Internet	\$	95.32		\$ 95.32	
10/30/07 - White's Marina - Hauling & winter work	\$	400.00	\$ 400.00		
	\$	16,590.03	\$ 3,874.10	\$ 1,102.13	\$ 11,613.80
9/30/2007 Account Balance	\$	17,666.23			

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4th Seminar on Criminal Justice: U.S. Prison System—Whose Justice? POLITIĆAL PRISONERS! At Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y. Wednesday, November 7, 2007 7:15 p.m. in Reid Castle Speakers: Ashanti Alston Omowali, co-chair of the National Jericho Movement, and Sundiata Sadig, current Vice President of the Ossining NAACP. The community is invited to attend all seminars.

This should be an extremely powerful evening. Please try to make it!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING, **EVERYBODY!**

Announcement:

The current Editor will be resigning in the near future, and a new Editor will be needed. If you have any interest in applying for the Editor position, please contact Linda Beatty, lindaby@verizon.net, or Jim Birmingham, jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com. Volunteer assistance is also still needed for printing the newsletter and preparing it for mailing.

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The Woody Report

November 2, 2007

The electric motor on the boat was out of commission for over a week this month, causing some cancellation of guest sails and prevented guest sails at the Pumpkin Festival. Without the motor we are more limited by wind, weather and tidal conditions. Tom LaBarr was able to locate a loose wire and the motor is working again. The boat is still leaking on the port side as well as other places, which has forced us to keep the electric bilge pump connected on the charging dock. We also installed a 12-volt bilge pump that is connected to the battery on the boat as a backup.

A preliminary count of the number of guests taken out this year, even with the delayed start due to the deck replacement, was over 1000. The Woody took its final sail this year upriver to White's Marina for de-rigging and preparation for hauling on Sunday, October 28th. The electric motor was not functioning properly that day and failed when we tried to start it just south of Chelsea. We plan to purchase a new motor and install it in the spring. We plan to remove the centerboard for repairs and inspection of the centerboard trunk. I would like to thank all those who came out to sail the boat and help with the de-rigging work. I would also like to thank Gigi for organizing the coop at Tom LaBarr's and the work shed at White's.

Maintenance work will start shortly after the boat is on land. A detailed list of tasks will be created along with a schedule. As a reminder, all active Woody sailors are expected to contribute 30 hours towards the maintenance of the boat each year. Sailors should contact their captains and maintenance coordinators for specifics on work parties and other maintenance activities. The task list will also be kept up to date on the BSC web site.

The Woody Sailors will be having the second annual **"Woody Guthrie Benefit Dinner"** in early February, either the 2nd or the 9th. We will also be celebrating the Woody's thirtieth birthday at this time. Watch for more information in the December newsletter.

> Submitted by Jim Birmingham, Woody Sailors Committee Chairperson

Greetings from the Nominating Committee

At the December meeting we will have elections for the Beacon Sloop Club executive offices. Nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary will be accepted at any time prior to the actual vote. The current nominees are Saul Rozinsky for President, David Cohen for Vice President, Jim Finnigan for Treasurer, and no nominees have been identified for Secretary. Anyone interested in serving in any of these offices should contact Edmund Fitzgerald III by phone at (845) 265-2969 or by e-mail at <u>astrofitz@aol.com</u> or come to the December meeting and declare their interest before the membership.

Anyone who has enjoyed the festivals, the sailing, the music or the environmental activities should consider volunteering to help sustain those activities. For those who have felt aggravated, discouraged or disheartened by some of their experiences with the Sloop Club, here is an opportunity to be a force to improve or change such experiences. If you do not want to hold an office or feel you don't have enough experience or have the time to spare, please participate in one of the committees. Give what assistance you can; and, if others do the same, all will be well.

Only Sloop Club members that have paid their annual dues will be allowed to vote at the December elections. So please be sure your membership is paid up. If it is not, you will be able to pay those dues at the December meeting, prior to the election. As in the past, the young children of members will be eligible to cast a vote. A question and answer forum is planned before the voting to introduce the candidates to the membership and allow members to make an informed vote. After the election the vote tallies will be announced.

Win, Lose or Draw, let us all commit ourselves to making this organization that has struggled, endured and persevered for over thirty years continue on for yet another year down by the riverside.

Come to the Annual Beacon Sloop Club Seasonal Sing! December 14, 8 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club clubhouse.

Admission is free. Guests are invited to bring a new gift toy, make a donation to Clearwater and bring along their favorite finger food to share.

From the Outgoing Treasurer: My Gift to You

When I volunteered for the office of Treasurer last December, I knew it was likely to be a challenging and very stressful job, and it was! I see the Treasurer's job as, among other things, an important interface with the outside world so that the BSC can be protected and kept informed about what, as a legal corporation, is required of it. This year tax reports for many years back needed to be submitted to the IRS, and the Charities Bureau needed to be straightened out so that the BSC could be on the State's list of legitimate charities.

You may not realize that this has been a very special year for the BSC's Treasury. Jim Finnigan spent a tremendous amount of time and energy earlier this year doing a really tough job--five years of back tax forms. In addition I did 2006 taxes and submitted reports to the Charities Bureau so that the BSC is now a legal New York State charity. which had never been completely carried through before. I have put the records onto Quicken and devised a system for keeping better track of deposits and for sending out the thank you letters which are required by law to be done each year for donor tax deductions. In doing these things I have gotten the Sloop Club's financial records completely current for you for the first time in six years. All of this was not an easy task, and it was embarrassing for me to have to write letters to the IRS and the Charities Bureau saying that the Beacon Sloop Club did not "have their act together" in the past but would from now on in, in order that we could be forgiven our oversights. I doubt that that excuse would work a second time, folks! Now, and from now on, it is imperative that changes be made to keep the Club's bookkeeping systems and tax reporting on track. And the Club needs your cooperation.

Compliance does not take place in a vacuum, nor is it just the Treasurer who is responsible for complying. It requires cooperation from members. I know new rules aren't fun, but there is a reason for all the rules. For example, receipts are required so that the Club can prove to the IRS that we are not giving kickbacks to our members (which would be illegal). Minutes are required to be taken at every meeting as a legal requirement for being a corporation, and these minutes must be kept in a permanent archive. Since our minutes are published in the newsletter, then a copy of all newsletters must be kept in a permanent archive (not just on a disk) so that they are available when you need to review them. Remember Sue floundering at the October meeting, trying to remember what had been decided previously? .

She should have had a permanent archive of previous minutes available for her to look at.

Though I'm not very experienced at public speaking, I have had plenty of experience as a bookkeeper in several professional capacities and also as an office manager and supervisor. As an experienced person, I strongly advise that something the BSC needs, without any doubt, is an accountant. I have never worked for a place without one. It is normal to have an accountant to go to when you need help, and it in no way casts any reflections on the abilities of whoever is the current BSC Treasurer.

I am not running for Treasurer for 2008 because too many key players at the BSC talk over me, ignore me or otherwise blow me off, instead of engaging in a respectful discussion with me about whether or not something really needs to be done and why, saying that it is "overkill" when I try to clean up sloppy bookkeeping practices and/or just not doing what I ask. I cannot help the BSC if I'm not taken seriously when I try to relay to you what I know from experience or what I've read in an IRS publication. Therefore I cannot in good conscience accept a position where I am responsible for you and your Treasury.

What I have done for the Beacon Sloop Club Treasury this year has been my gift and my legacy to you. All I ask in return is that you please preserve it and continue it for the BSC's future existence and financial health.

Linda Beatty, Treasurer

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Every Sunday Farmers Market at the Beacon Waterfront 10-4pm

Simply Valley All Local Hudson Valley Products

Sprout Creek Farm Cheeses (Toussaint and Ouray Cheese) Fresh made Lamb, Mushroom Spring Rolls Fresh Made Pasta Mario's Brick Oven Bread Mary Finger Organic Free Range Eggs Special Large Quantity orders call 845-562-0192

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BEACON SLOOP CLUB

P.O. Box 527 Beacon, NY 12508



Executive Committee meeting, Tuesday, November 27th, 7:30 p.m.

Beacon Sloop Club meeting every 1st Friday of the month: next meeting December 7th – potluck 6:30 p.m., general meeting 7:30 p.m.

African Drumming Classes with Kazi Oliver Fridays at 7 p.m. except the 1st Friday of the month at the BSC.

Farmers Market every Sunday, 10-4 p.m., at BSC.

Wood Cutting Party, Friday, December 7 at 2 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club clubhouse. Bring your saws.

Global Warming program, Saturday, December 8, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Howland Center, Beacon.

Beacon Sloop Club Annual Seasonal Sing, December 14, 8 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club clubhouse. Free admission—bring a new gift toy, make a donation to Clearwater, bring your favorite finger food to share.

Vigil for Peace every Saturday from 12-2 p.m. at the intersection of Rts. 9 and 9D opposite Staples and at the corner of the South Hills Mall.

Details of calendar events may be found elsewhere in the newsletter. For more info about the BSC: <u>www.beaconsloop.org</u>, or <u>www.beaconsloopclub.org</u>